SMEPlus partners in Europe

The study visits and workshops with stakeholders take place in the SMEPlus partner regions:

- Gävle, Sweden
- Groningen, Netherlands
- Kassel, Germany
- Eisenstadt, Austria
- Logroño, Spain
- Rome, Italy
- Craiova, Romania

Public authorities exchange good practices to better support uptake of energy saving measures in industrial SMEs.

Project Partners

- University of Gävle (SE)
- Regionalmanagement Burgenland GmbH (AT)
- House of Energy e.V. (DE)
- Economic Development Agency of La Rioja (ES)
- Ministry for the Economic Development (IT)
- Province of Groningen (NL)
- South-West Oltenia Regional Development Agency (RO)

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Energy efficiency in SMEs

Industrial SMEs represent 95% of the companies and their impact on economies is immense. SMEPlus project partners support and help industrial SMEs to improve their energy efficiency. Apart from lowering energy costs, there are other multiple benefits like reuse of excess heat and more environment friendly operation of SMEs. These benefits are being analysed by the project partners. The SMEPlus partners discuss, compare and rethink their energy policies for SMEs, exchange good practices and solutions as well as improve existing instruments towards SMEs. Partners also liaise with and compose energy efficiency policy action plans for the regional stakeholders. The action plans developed during the project will influence national and regional Operational Programmes and policies.

Energy Efficiency Benefits

For **Industrial SMEs**
- Reduced energy consumption & lower energy bills
- Less resources used
- Reuse of resources e.g. waste heat
- Improved public image of the SME
- Increased competitiveness
- Reduction of maintenance costs of equipment
- Increased productivity and improved processes

For **Public authorities**
- Evaluations of energy policies & better design of future policies
- Energy savings & lower CO₂ emission in the region
- Enhanced collaboration with regional energy agency

For **Public**
- Less tax payers money spent on energy related policies
- Increased competitiveness of the region
- Improved collaboration between companies in the region
- New job opportunities

For **Environment**
- Less emissions, lower pollution
- Reduction of waste
- Less resources used